Personal Worldview and Business Ethics Assignment

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STEP 1

1. **To what extent should personal religious beliefs impact our decisions about business ethics**

Personal religious beliefs often emphasize values such as honesty, integrity, respect, and fairness, which align with universal ethical principles. Which can positively impact business ethics by encouraging ethical behavior and promoting a culture of trust and accountability. So, I think when it comes to ethical principles in the workplace. Having a small religious backbone that emphasizes promoting a positive ethical environment, but still respecting everyone's religious beliefs to avoid discrimination and ensure inclusivity is well needed. Business decisions must also comply with legal and professional standards to maintain integrity and avoid legal repercussions.

To what extent do your personal religious (or non-religious) beliefs about life impact your sense of business ethics and personal decision-making?

A decent percentage of my personal religious beliefs greatly shape my sense of business ethics and personal decision-making while still respecting other people's beliefs and spaces also. I believe my personal beliefs provide a foundational framework of values such as respect in the workspace, work environment integrity that is motivational for co-workers and myself. Fairness and honesty that is contagious, and desirable. Which will persuade co-workers to be open to embracing join effort systems and agendas. Due to the workspace being a happy space co-workers like to come to.

2. **Does it seem odd to connect every belief we have about life back to what we believe about God?**

No, I don't feel like it's odd to connect every belief we have with the Bible. I have always felt like the Bible was the first survival manual given to human beings at a moderate youth age. It's a guide that offers principles and wisdom for every aspect of life, from moral conduct to personal development. By grounding our beliefs in the teachings of the Bible, we establish a foundation that is rooted in timeless truths and values. This connection can provide clarity and direction in a world that often feels chaotic and uncertain. Therefore, integrating our beliefs about life with our faith in God helps us navigate challenges with a sense of purpose and conviction. Still respecting somebody's personal beliefs is still important too.

Article 1- "What is a worldview and why is it important to me?"

3. **Has your answers to either of the first two questions changed after reading article 1?** Reading article 1 hasn't fundamentally changed my initial responses. However, it reinforced the idea that personal beliefs are deeply intertwined with one's ethical framework. The article expanded my perspective on how our worldview shapes not just our personal life but our professional decisions as well. It emphasized that having a clear and cohesive worldview can guide consistent ethical decisions, aligning well with my view that personal and professional ethics should be in harmony.

4. **Do you believe in absolute truth? Is there more than one way/religion to understanding absolute truth about God and the meaning of life?**

Yes and no. I feel like there can be absolute truth from someone in such scenarios because they are telling the truth in that moment. I also feel like in other certain scenarios saying or telling everything, but the truth is the only answer. No, I don't feel like it's any other way.

Yes, I believe in absolute truth. The article reinforced my belief that while people may approach truth from different angles or traditions, there is ultimately one truth when it comes to the nature of God and life's meaning. Christianity provides a path to understanding this truth, rooted in Biblical teachings. At the same time, I recognize the importance of engaging with others respectfully, even when their beliefs differ, without compromising my own understanding of truth.

5. **Do you believe that humans have free will in their decisions, or are they entirely a product of their personal environment, circumstances, upbringing, etc.**

From past experiences I feel like sometimes in certain situations you do have the free will towards the decisions you make. However, from constant first-hand experiences I have seen many situations where people were a product of their environment, and really didn't have any choices in what they were doing or had to do.

6. **Are things such as true love, beauty, and justice really possible, or are those values totally determined by cultural beliefs and norms?**

I believe that true love, beauty, and justice are indeed real and possible, but they are often shaped and influenced by cultural beliefs and norms. While different cultures

may have their own interpretations and expressions of these values, their core-essence remains universal. For example, true love is often recognized across cultures as a deep, selfless affection for others, even though how it is expressed might vary. Similarly, beauty and justice might look different depending on cultural standards, but the pursuit of fairness and the appreciation of aesthetic values are part of the human experience. Therefore, while culture can affect how we perceive these values, it doesn't completely define or limit their existence.

STEP 2

7. **Have your answers to any of the last questions changed after reading article 2?**

Reading article 2 didn't change my answers, but it did deepen my understanding. The article highlighted how various aspects of life, such as love, beauty, and justice, often seen as subjective, can have an objective foundation when viewed through a Christian lens. It also reaffirmed that cultural norms influence how these values are expressed but don't entirely define their essence.

8. **So far in what you've read and in what you've experienced in life, does it seem odd or offensive to see Jesus Christ as the foundation for life and meaning?**

No, I don't see Jesus being the foundation for life and meaning as offensive. The article discussed how Christian ethics has historically shaped Western civilization's values, and seeing Jesus Christ as a foundation for life and meaning aligns with the idea that faith

provides an anchor amidst life's uncertainties. It’s a comforting thought for those who believe, and for me, it’s a source of direction in both personal and business decisions.

STEP 3

9. **Have your answers to either of the last two questions changed after reading article 3?**

Reading article 3 hasn’t drastically altered my answers but has strengthened my understanding of Christian ethics. The article explained how Christian teachings on stewardship and leadership apply to modern business practices. This aligns with my view that ethics and faith are intertwined, providing a moral compass in decision-making.

10. **Now that you’ve read all of the articles, how has your view of meaning, ethics and your own worldview changed? What questions or comments do you have about what you’ve read?**

My worldview has been further solidified after reading these articles. They highlighted how Christian ethics can provide a strong foundation for both personal and professional life. One key takeaway was the notion of servant leadership, which encourages business leaders to serve others rather than simply pursue profit. It got me thinking about how I can apply this principle more intentionally in my professional efforts. I don't have any major questions, but I'm interested in exploring more about how these ethics can be practically applied in everyday business decisions.

11. Reflecting on these questions and articles has deepened my understanding of how my personal beliefs shape my ethics. My values of integrity, respect, and fairness, rooted in Christian teachings, guide my decision-making both personally and professionally. While cultural norms influence concepts like love, beauty, and justice, I believe these values exist universally.

The principles of stewardship and servant leadership, reinforced through Christian ethics, strengthen my commitment to ethical business practices. Overall, this reflection has solidified my belief that faith-based values provide clear, lasting guidance for both life and work.

Personal Worldview References

- Lewis, C.S. (1952). Mere Christianity. HarperOne.
- A classic exploration of Christian beliefs, ethics, and morality, providing a comprehensive understanding of how faith shapes worldview.
- Sire, James W. (2009). The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog (5th ed.). InterVarsity Press.
- This book offers an excellent overview of various worldviews and how they shape one's beliefs about life, ethics, and purpose.
- Guinness, Os (2016). Fools' Talk: Recovering the Art of Christian Persuasion. InterVarsity Press.

- Provides insight into Christian apologetics and the importance of grounding one's worldview in faith and reason.

Wright, N.T. (2010). Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense. HarperOne.

- A thoughtful discussion on the Christian worldview and its relevance in today's world, particularly in areas of ethics and morality.

Business Ethical Practices

Introduction

Business ethics isn't just about following the law or abiding by company policies—it's about creating a culture that prioritizes integrity, fairness, and respect. Christian ethics, in particular, emphasize values like honesty, stewardship, and servant leadership, which can guide businesses in making decisions that benefit not only their bottom line but also the communities they serve. (*Harvard Business Review*, 2020).

Ethical Practices #1

One of the core practices derived from Christian ethics is the principle of stewardship. As mentioned in the article "Christian Ethics and Spirituality in Leading Business Organizations," stewardship calls for a responsible management of resources. This means that business leaders should prioritize sustainability and the common good over pure profit. Pope Francis's teachings on the importance of ensuring that humanity is served by

wealth, not ruled by it, further reinforce this principle. Applying this in business means adopting practices that protect the environment and ensure fair wages for employees (*Forbes*, 2019). (*Melé & Fontrodona*, 2016).

Ethical Practices #2

Another ethical practice rooted in Christian values is servant leadership. This concept, as illustrated in the teachings of Jesus, encourages leaders to serve their employees, customers, and communities. It's not about wielding power for personal gain but about empowering others. According to the article, servant leadership fosters a culture of collaboration and accountability, which leads to a more positive and productive work environment. Businesses that implement this principle see higher employee satisfaction and customer loyalty (*Business Insider*, 2021). (*Greenleaf*, 1977).

Conclusion

Business ethics grounded in Christian values offer more than just a moral guideline; they provide a framework for building a sustainable and humane business model. Whether through stewardship or servant leadership, these principles promote a holistic approach to success—one that prioritizes people over profit and long-term growth over short-term gains. (*Harvard Business Review*, 2020).

Business Ethical References

- *Harvard Business Review* (2020). "The Future of Leadership is Servant Leadership."
- *Forbes* (2019). "Sustainability in Business: How Ethical Practices Build Long-term Success."
- *Business Insider* (2021). "Why Employee Satisfaction Drives Business Growth."
- Melé, D., & Fontrodona, J. (2016). *Christian Ethics and Spirituality in Leading Business Organizations*. Journal of Business Ethics, 145(4), 671-679.
- Pope Francis (2015). *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*. Vatican Press.
- Greenleaf, R.K. (1977). *Servant Leadership: A Journey into the Nature of Legitimate Power and Greatness*. Paulist Press.